



What type and where is my pain







Different types of pain



Pain does not feel the same for everyone. Describing your pain clearly will help your doctor or nurse find the best treatment for you.



Tell your doctor or nurse where the pain is, what it is like, how bad it is and when it happens.



Acute pain

This is pain that starts suddenly and feels sharp. It usually doesn't last for a long time, but can sometimes last weeks or months.

Example: falling over and bruising your knee.



Chronic pain

This is pain that lasts for a longer period of time. This is pain that lasts for months or years and limits your ability to live your normal life.

Example: lower back pain.

Different types of pain



Soft tissue pain

This pain happens when organs, muscles are damaged or inflamed.

Example: a sprained wrist.



Nerve pain

This pain happens when a nerve is damaged. Other ways to describe this pain is prickling, tingling, or burning.

Example: shooting pains down one arm.

Ways to describe pain



Describing your pain as well as you can will help your doctors and nurses find the best way of treating it.



Many people find it hard to put their pain into words. The questions below will help you describe your pain.



Where is the pain?



Is the pain in one part of your body, or in more than one place?

Using a diagram to help



You can use a picture to mark where your pain is. If you have more than one pain, label them 1, 2, 3.



You could mark **1 being the pain that upsets you most, 2 the second most** and so on.

Example of someone's pains



What is the pain like?



You might use the following words to describe your pain:













My pain Where is your pain? (or where are your pains?)



How bad is your pain? Pain number 1

This is the pain:

Where?

If you measured your pain on a scale of 1 to 5, what number would you rate it? 1 means no pain, and 5 means it's really painful.

Pain Scale $\begin{array}{c}
\end{array} \\
1 \\
\end{array} \\
2 \\
\end{array} \\
3 \\
4 \\
5 \\
\end{array}$

When are you in pain?



Are you in pain all the time or does it come and go?

Is it better or worse at night?



Does it keep you awake or wake you up?



Does anything make the pain better or worse?

Page 10



How does the pain affect your daily life?

Standing Sitting Lying down

Do you feel better or worse when you're standing, sitting or lying down?



Do painkillers, such as paracetamol, stop the pain or just reduce it, and for how long?



Does the pain stop you from concentrating?



Does it affect your social life, or your sex life?



Knowing this will help your doctor or nurse understand the problems the pain is causing for you.



Your answers to these questions will help your doctor or nurse plan the best treatments for you.

How bad is your pain? Pain number 2





When are you in pain?



Are you in pain all the time or does it come and go?



Is it better or worse at night?



Does it keep you awake or wake you up?



Does anything make the pain better or worse?



How does the pain affect your daily life?

Page 14



Do you feel better or worse when you're standing, sitting or lying down?



Do painkillers, such as paracetamol, stop the pain or just reduce it, and for how long?



Does the pain stop you from concentrating?



Does it affect your social life, or your sex life?

How bad is your pain? Pain number **3**





When are you in pain?



Are you in pain all the time or does it come and go?

Page 16





Does it keep you awake or wake you up?



Does anything make the pain better or worse?



How does the pain affect your daily life?



Do you feel better or worse when you're standing, sitting or lying down?



Do painkillers, such as paracetamol, stop the pain or just reduce it, and for how long?



Does the pain stop you from concentrating?



Does it affect your social life, or your sex life?

Notes



Primary Care Accessible Resources What type and where is my pain

Suffolk Learning Disability <u>Partnershi</u>p



This booklet was co-produced by Ace Anglia and members of the 'Staying Healthy, Safe & Well' Workstream of the Joint Suffolk Learning Disability Strategy 2015-20.



The resources were originally funded by clinical commissioning groups in Suffolk. They have been amended for use in Dorset with the permission from Suffolk clinical commissioning groups.



Designed by: Ace Anglia: Accessible Information

For more information, please e-mail: info@aceanglia.com

Made using:





